

P R 161738Z MAY 08
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY KYIV PRIORITY
INFO MISSILE TECHNOLOGY CONTROL REGIME COLLECTIVE
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

S E C R E T STATE 052312

E.O. 12958: DECL: 05/16/2033

TAGS: [ETTC](#) [PARM](#) [PREL](#) [MTCRE](#) [MNUC](#) [UP](#) [IN](#)

SUBJECT: (S) REQUESTING THAT THE GOU PROVIDE ADDITIONAL
INFORMATION ON PROPOSED ROCKET ENGINE COOPERATION BETWEEN
YUZHNOYE AND ISRO TO MTCR PARTNERS

REF: A. 04 STATE 193523

- [B](#). 04 KIEV 3675
- [C](#). 05 STATE 50864
- [D](#). 05 STATE 56472
- [E](#). 05 KIEV 2929
- [F](#). 06 STATE 37471
- [G](#). 06 STATE 201746
- [H](#). 07 STATE 40971
- [I](#). 07 STATE 106058
- [J](#). 07 KYIV 2245
- [K](#). 07 STATE 135358
- [L](#). 07 KYIV 2490
- [M](#). STATE 34695
- [N](#). MTCR POC 014 - FEB 2008

Classified By: ISN/MTR DIRECTOR PAM DURHAM FOR REASONS
1.5 (B), (C), AND (D).

[1](#). (U) This is an action request. Embassy Kyiv please
see paragraph 5.

[2](#). (S//REL UKRAINE) Background: Since September 2004,
the United States has discussed with Ukrainian
authorities information indicating that the Ukrainian
firm Yuzhnoye - a company with expertise in missile and
space launch vehicle (SLV) design - was planning to
assist the Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) in
developing a liquid oxygen-kerosene (LOX-kerosene)
rocket engine (Refs). We noted that this type of engine
would almost certainly be a Missile Technology Control
Regime (MTCR) Category I item and that such a transfer
would directly support India's development of Category I
systems that are inherently capable of WMD delivery.
Moreover, as an MTCR Partner, Ukraine is committed
under the MTCR Guidelines to apply a strong presumption
of denial, regardless of the purpose of the export, to
all exports of Category I items and to notify the MTCR
Partners in advance of its intention to approve a
license for any Category I transfer to non-Partners
such as India.

[3](#). (S//REL UKRAINE) At the February 2008 U.S.-Ukraine
Nonproliferation talks in Washington, we reiterated our
view that this cooperation with India is problematic,
noting that the provision of such technology to India
is inconsistent with the MTCR's efforts to encourage
missile restraint in regions of tension, undermines
nonproliferation norms, and sets a bad precedent (Ref
M). Our GOU interlocutors said that Ukraine had not
yet approved the contract for this cooperation, but
that Ukraine had done all that was required by the MTCR
Guidelines. We asked for more information on the
status of the contract between Yuzhnoye and ISRO, for
details on the cooperation envisioned between the two
firms, and for confirmation that Ukraine had sent
information to the MTCR POC in Paris on Ukraine's
intent to transfer a Category I system to a non-MTCR
country.

[4](#). (S//REL UKRAINE) Subsequent to the nonproliferation
talks, we received a copy of Ukraine's Category I
notification to the MTCR POC in Paris (Ref N).

However, the notification does not provide any details on the type of cooperation Ukraine intends to engage in with India. It also does not include an explanation of how the sale is justified in terms of the nonproliferation factors specified in the MTCR Guidelines. (Note: We are providing a copy of this notification to post via e-mail. End note.)

15. (S) Action Request: Department requests Embassy Kyiv approach appropriate host government officials and - drawing from the information in paragraphs two through four - urge the GOU to provide detailed information to the MTCR Partners via the MTCR Point of Contact in Paris on the proposed Yuzhnoye - ISRO rocket cooperation, i.e., specific item(s) to be transferred and specific end-use. Post should also request that the GOU provide to the MTCR Partners a detailed explanation of how the cooperation is justified in terms of the six nonproliferation factors specified in the Guidelines. The GOU's provision of this information will promote transparency and give MTCR Partners the data they need to provide feedback to Ukraine.

16. (U) Please slug any reporting on this or other missile nonproliferation issues for ISN/MTR and EUR/PRA. Department point of contact is John Paul Herrmann, ISN/MTR, 202-647-1430 (herrmannjp@state.gov).
RICE

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End Cable Text